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318. SCHELLEN (H.): Spectrum Analysis. 8vo.
322. LEDGER (E.): The Sun, Its Planets, etc. 12mo.
330. LEWIS (S. C.): Historical Survey of the Astronomy
of the Ancients. 8vo.
489. PROCTOR (R. A.): Myths and Marvels of Astronomy.
12mo.

PERIODICALS.

The Observatory: No. 252 (April, 1897).

Monthly Notices Royal Astronomical Society: Vol. LVI, Nos.
2, 4, 5.

The Astrophysical Journal: Vol. V, Nos. 2, 4, 6; Vol. 6, No. 1.

THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

ELECTION OF PROFESSOR JAMES E. KEELER AS DIRECTOR
OF THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

At the regular meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of California, held in San Francisco on Tuesday, March 8, 1898, Professor JAMES E. KEELER, Director of the Allegheny Observatory, was chosen to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Professor E. S. HOLDEN as Director of the Lick Observatory.

At this date it is not known when Professor KEELER will assume the duties of his new office.

R. G. AITKEN.

March 16, 1898.

LIBRARY NOTICE.

Attention is called to the report of the Library Committee printed in this number in the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors. The Committee is making every effort to increase the value and usefulness of the library, both by adding to the number of volumes and by making these more easily accessible. It is especially desirable to increase the number of books and periodicals of large popular interest. Contributions of this class from any source will be thankfully received.

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

DISCOVERY OF COMET *b*, 1898 (PERRINE).

This comet was discovered in the morning of March 20th. At $0^h 53^m 56^s$ G. M. T. its position was R. A. $21^h 18^m 36^s.89$, and Decl. $+16^\circ 43' 23''.3$. It was then very near the western

limits of the constellation *Pegasus*, a little south and west of the star *iota*. Its daily motion is north 1° and east about the same amount.

The head is composed of a nucleus, some $10''$ in diameter, surrounded symmetrically by a nebulosity $2'$ in diameter. The nucleus does not present a stellar appearance, but looks granular.

Extending away from the comet, in position-angle 281° , is a moderately broad tail, which can be traced to a distance of 1° . It seems to broaden near the end, and there are indications of a fainter nebulosity surrounding the main tail.

The head of the comet is about as bright as a seventh magnitude star, and can be seen with a very small telescope.

Mt. HAMILTON, Cal., March 21, 1898.

C. D. P.

ELEMENTS OF COMET *b*, 1898 (PERRINE).

From Mr. PERRINE's observation of March 19th, at the time of discovery, and my observations of March 21st and 22d, I have computed the following elements of this comet:—

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \text{March } 19.1079, \text{ G. M. T.} \\ \omega &= 49^{\circ} 31' 16'' \\ \Omega &= 263 \quad 19 \quad 53 \\ i &= 72 \quad 53 \quad 25 \end{aligned} \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \omega \\ \Omega \\ i \end{aligned}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Ecliptic and} \\ \text{Mean Equinox of 1898.0.} \end{array}$$

$$\log q = 0.04252.$$

$$(O.-C.) \Delta\lambda' \cos \beta' = +5'' \quad \Delta\beta' = +3''$$

W. J. HUSSEY.

ASTRONOMICAL TELEGRAMS (*Translation*).

Lick Observatory, March 20, 1898.

To Harvard College Observatory, }
Students' Observatory. } Sent 12^h 35^m P. M.

A bright comet was discovered by C. D. PERRINE (on March 20th, at 4:30 A.M.). Its position, March 20th, 0^h 53^m 56^s G. M. T., was, R. A. $21^{\text{h}} 18^{\text{m}} 36^{\text{s}}.89$; Decl. $+16^{\circ} 43' 23''.3$. Its daily motions are $+56'$ in R. A. and $+61'$ in Decl. The physical appearance of the comet is, nebulosity $2'$ diameter, seventh magnitude, strong central condensation, tail 1° long.

Lick Observatory, March 22, 1898.

To Harvard College Observatory: }
To Students' Observatory, Berkeley: } (Sent 10:15 A.M.)

Comet *b*, 1898, (PERRINE) was observed by W. J. HUSSEY, March 22.0532, G. M. T.; R. A. $21^{\text{h}} 25^{\text{m}} 59^{\text{s}}.8$, Decl. $+18^{\circ} 49' 17''$.